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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Hughey et al. **GROUP:** 2881
SERIAL NO: 09 938.277 **EXAMINER:** Z.R. Hashmi
FILED: August 23, 2001
FOR: SAMPLE INTRODUCTION INTERFACE FOR
ANALYTICAL PROCESSING

AMENDMENT

This Amendment is in response to the Official Action dated February 13, 2003. Please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Amend claim 29. Claims 1-44 are pending as follows:

1.(original) A method of converting a non-gaseous sample for accelerator mass spectrometry analysis, comprising:

converting desired elements present in the non-gaseous sample to a predetermined gaseous form; and

transporting the predetermined gaseous form to an accelerator mass spectrometer ion source.

2.(original) The method of claim 1, wherein said step of converting comprises chemically reacting the non-gaseous sample.

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